

The Oldershaw Academy

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10th December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to wish each and every family a wonderful Christmas. We are sure it will be a time for joy, celebration and hope for the New Year to come. We are delighted with the support provided for the annual Oldershaw Christmas Hamper appeal. It is so fitting that staff, pupils, supported by parents come together to make a wonderful contribution to those less fortunate than us in the Wallasey community. This year staff and pupils will be delivering multiple hampers-to our families. The spirit of Christmas is truly alive at the Oldershaw Academy .

May we thank parents for their support throughout 2019. Our children have been wonderful ambassadors for the Academy and we are so proud of the positive impact that they are making. We also ask parents particularly with students in Year 11 to support their revision programmes as they approach their important exams.

As Oldershaw approaches it's centenary in September 2020, we are thrilled that the growing popularity of the school has resulted in over 2 applications being received for every single place.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind all families that the target attendance for every child is 100% and that the government requires us to focus attendance support on children with 90% or less. Children should not be off school for minor ailments, tiredness or birthdays. Please support us by making medical appointments outside school time where possible or sending your child back into school afterwards where not; we also require evidence of all medical appointments. Unless your child has a serious illness, please send them in to school and we will look after them, contacting you as necessary. The academy is required by law to fine or prosecute families whose children do not have good regular attendance. Please help us avoid this by working with the pastoral and attendance staff to ensure your child is in school every day.

Thank you to all families for their continued support as we continue to demand high standards and expectations at Oldershaw. Can we please remind you that fleeces, hoodies, sweatshirts and tracksuit tops should not be worn for school. If students are cold they can wear a grey v-neck jumper over their shirt and tie and should also bring a coat to school. Furthermore, all children should wear black school shoes every day and trainers are banned. Can we remind parents that the school skirt is grey and not black. Please see the website for examples of acceptable and unacceptable styles.

Our updated Parent App provides easy access to important Academy information. You can access the system from a smartphone, tablet or PC- anytime, anywhere. The information that you receive through the App will help you to stay up-to-date with your child's school life as well as support your child's development and progress. Importantly, you will get your child's attendance information and their academic reports through the App.

On Wednesday 18th December the school will start their festive celebrations with the Annual Christmas Concert. Parents and pupils are welcome to this evening show beginning at 7.00 p.m. in the Main Hall and

tickets can be purchased on the door. Please keep your diary free next term between 10th – 12th March for the Academy production, "The Wizard of Oz". The shows have gained regional and national recognition for excellence and the large cast of Oldershaw pupils will certainly entertain and amaze audiences.

Thursday 19th December will be an Activities and Trips day for years 7- 10 and each year group will have their Christmas Rewards assembly (Thursday & Friday) and festive activities organised by the pastoral teams for each year group.

The arrangements for the final day of this term, Friday 20th December, are as follows :

- Years 12 & 13: Break up for Christmas on Wednesday 18th December
- Year 11 will be on study leave on 20th December except for those students who have to sit or complete missed exams from their mock exam schedule.
- Years 7 -1 0 : Pupils arrive for school at the normal time in full school uniform
- Periods 1 & 2 will be Form time to accommodate Christmas assemblies. A normal timetabled lesson (period 3) will be followed by Christmas Assembly Period 4
- Pupils will be dismissed at approximately 12.30 p.m. to begin their Christmas break. Packed lunch is available for all pupils to order in advance and collect at break time.

Dates for your diary

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| • Year 11 | Pre-Public Exams Results Day for pupils | 13 th January |
| • Year 11 | Parents Evening | 15 th January |
| • Years 12 and 13 | Parents Evening | 9 th January |
| • Year 8 | Parents Evening | 22 nd January |
| • Year 8 | Exam Week | 3 rd – 7 th February |

Pupils will return to the Academy on **Monday 6th January 2020** at the normal time.

Finally, may we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes



Mike Liddell & Jon Bush

Principals